Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-6 without prejudice. Please add new claims 17-36 as indicated below in the List of Claims.

List of Claims

1-16. Cancelled.

17. (New) A process for the preparation of L-lysine, comprising:

a) fermenting an L-lysine-producing bacterium of the species *Corynebacterium glutamicum* in a culture medium, wherein:

i) the Zwischenferment (ZWF) enzyme of either SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:10 is overexpressed in said bacterium;

ii) the activity of the pyruvate oxidase (poxB) enzyme of SEQ ID NO:5 is either decreased or eliminated in said bacterium;

b) concentrating L-lysine in either said culture medium or said bacterium of step a); and

c) isolating the L-lysine concentrated in step b).

18. (New) The process of claim 17, wherein said bacterium overexpresses the ZWF enzyme of SEQ ID NO:10.

19. (New) The process of either claim 17 or claim 18, wherein said bacterium has been transformed with a vector comprising a promoter and encoding the protein of either SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:10.

20. (New) A process for the preparation of L-lysine, comprising:

a) fermenting an L-lysine-producing bacterium of the species *Corynebacterium glutamicum* in a culture medium, wherein:

i) said bacterium has been transformed with a vector comprising a promoter and encoding the protein of either SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:10;

ii) the poxB gene in said bacterium (SEQ ID NO:4) has been disrupted by integration mutagenesis; and

b) collecting L-lysine from either said culture medium or said bacterium of step a).

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said bacterium has been transformed with a vector comprising a promoter and encoding the protein of SEQ ID NO:10.

22. (New) The method of either claim 20 or claim 21, further comprising isolating said L-lysine from either said culture medium or said bacterium collected in step b).

23. (New) The method of either claim 20 or claim 21, wherein said integration mutagenesis of said poxB gene is accomplished by transforming said bacterium with the plasmid pCR2.1poxBint, deposited as DSM 13114.

24. (New) A process for the preparation of an L-amino acid selected from the group consisting of: L-threonine; L-isoleucine; and L-tryptophan; comprising:

a) fermenting a bacterium that produces said L-amino acid in a culture medium, wherein said bacterium is of the species *Corynebacterium glutamicum*, and wherein:

i) the ZWF enzyme of either SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:10 is overexpressed in said bacterium;

ii) the activity of the pyruvate oxidase (poxB) enzyme of SEQ ID NO:5 is either decreased or eliminated in said bacterium;

b) concentrating said L-amino acid in either said culture medium or said bacterium of step a); and

c) isolating the L-amino acid concentrated in step b).

25. (New) The process of claim 24, wherein said bacterium overexpresses the ZWF enzyme of SEQ ID NO:10.

26. (New) The process of claim 24, wherein said bacterium has been transformed with a vector comprising a promoter and encoding the protein of either SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:10.

27. (New) The process of any one of claims 24-26, wherein said L-amino acid is L-threonine.

28. (New) The process of any one of claims 24-26, wherein said L-amino acid is L-isoleucine.

29. (New) The process of any one of claims 24-26, wherein said L-amino acid is L-tryptophan.

30. (New) A process for the preparation of an L-amino acid selected from the group consisting of: L-threonine; L-isoleucine; and L-tryptophan; comprising:

a) fermenting a bacterium that produces said L-amino acid in a culture medium, wherein said bacterium is of the species *Corynebacterium glutamicum*, and wherein:

i) said bacterium has been transformed with a vector comprising a promoter and encoding the protein of either SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:10;

ii) the poxB gene (SEQ ID NO:4) in said bacterium has been disrupted by integration mutagenesis; and

b) collecting said L-amino acid from either said culture medium or said bacterium of step a).

31. (New) The process of claim 30, wherein said bacterium has been transformed with a vector comprising a promoter and encoding the protein of SEQ ID NO:10.

32. (New) The process of claim 30, further comprising isolating said L-amino acid from either said culture medium or said bacterium collected in step b).

33. (New) The process of claim 30, wherein said integration mutagenesis is accomplished by transforming said bacterium with the plasmid pCR2.1poxBint, deposited as DSM 13114.

34. (New) The process of any one of claims 30-33, wherein said L-amino acid is L-threonine.

35. (New) The process of any one of claims 30-33, wherein said L-amino acid is L-isoleucine.

36. (New) The process of any one of claims 30-33, wherein said L-amino acid is L-tryptophan.